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South African Data Archive

**Quarterly Labour Force Survey,
1st Quarter, 2014
(South Africa)**

Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)

CODEBOOK

SADA 0201

BIBLIOGRAPHIC CITATION

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Statistics South Africa. *Quarterly Labour Force Survey, 1st Quarter, 2014* [Computer file]. S0201. Pretoria: Statistics South Africa [producer] 2014. Pretoria: South African Data Archive, National Research Foundation [distributor], 2014.

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STUDY DESCRIPTION

SADA 0201

TITLE: Quarterly Labour Force Survey, 1st Quarter, 2014

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)

DEPOSITOR: Statistics South Africa

ORGANISATION HOUSING THE DATA:

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KEYWORDS: Employment; Unemployment; Household surveys; Housing; Informal sector; Labour supply.

SERIES DATA:

Series name:	Principal Investigator:	Currently available:
Labour Force Survey; February and September	Statistics South Africa	2000 – 2002
Labour Force Survey; March and September	Statistics South Africa	2003 – 2007
The South African Labour Force Survey Panel, 2006	Statistics South Africa	2006
Quarterly Labour Force Survey, 1 st Quarter – 4 th Quarter	Statistics South Africa	2008 – 2014

ABSTRACT:

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) is a household-based sample survey conducted by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA). It collects data on the labour market activities of individuals aged 15 years or older who live in South Africa. Starting in 2005, Stats SA undertook a major revision of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) which was conducted twice per year since 2000. This revision resulted in changes to the survey methodology, the survey questionnaire, the frequency of data collection and data releases, and the survey data capture and processing systems. The redesigned labour market survey is the QLFS which is now the principal vehicle for disseminating labour market information on a quarterly basis.

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION: South Africa

IMPORTANT VARIABLES: Employment, unemployment, informal sector.

DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES: Age, gender, level of education, marital status, migration, use of health services, economic activity, unemployment, employment and self-employment.

UNIVERSE: Households in the nine provinces of South Africa

METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION: Survey Questionnaire

SAMPLING:

The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) frame has been developed as a general-purpose household survey frame that can be used by all other household surveys, irrespective of the sample size requirement of the survey. The sample size for the QLFS is roughly 30 000 dwellings per quarter.

The sample is based on information collected during the 2001 population census conducted by Stats SA. In preparation for the 2001 Census, the country was divided into 80 787 enumeration areas (EAs). Stats SA's household-based surveys use a master sample of primary sampling units (PSUs) which comprise EAs that are drawn from across the country.

The sample is designed to be representative at provincial level and within provinces at metro/non-metro level. Within the metros, the sample is further distributed by geography type. The four geography types are: urban formal, urban informal, farms, and tribal. This implies, for example, that within a metropolitan area, the sample is representative of the different geography types that may exist within that metro. The current sample size is 3 080 PSUs. It is divided equally into four subgroups or panels called rotation groups. The rotation groups are designed in such a way that each of these groups has the same distribution pattern as that which is observed in the whole sample. They are numbered from one to four and these numbers also correspond to the quarters of the year in which the sample will be rotated for the particular group.

The sample for the redesigned Labour Force Survey (i.e. the QLFS) is based on a stratified two-stage design with probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling of PSUs in the first stage, and sampling of dwelling units (DUs) with systematic sampling in the second stage.

UNITS OF OBSERVATION: Households

DATE OF DATA COLLECTION: Jan – Mar, 2014.

EXTENT OF DATA COLLECTION: 1 data file in ASCII and machine-readable documentation.

FILE SPECIFICATIONS:

Part 1: Data File

Number of cases:	87 057
Number of records:	87 057
Number of records per case:	1
Logical Record Length:	275
Number of variables:	155
Number of kilobytes:	23 534 KB

PUBLICATIONS:

Statistics South Africa. 2014. Quarterly Labour Force Survey, Quarter 1, 2014. Pretoria: Statistics South Africa.

NOTES:

Most questions in the Labour Force Survey questionnaire are pre-coded, i.e. there is a set number of options from which one or more must be selected. For open-ended (write-in) questions, the description will note that post-coding occurred and explain how this was done. For most variables the coding is apparent from the questionnaire (available elsewhere in the documentation) and is not repeated in the variable description. Where the coding is not apparent, the description either provides the codes or indicates where code lists are to be found.

RESTRICTIONS:

Only available to bona fide researchers.

DATE STUDY ADDED:

21 August, 2014